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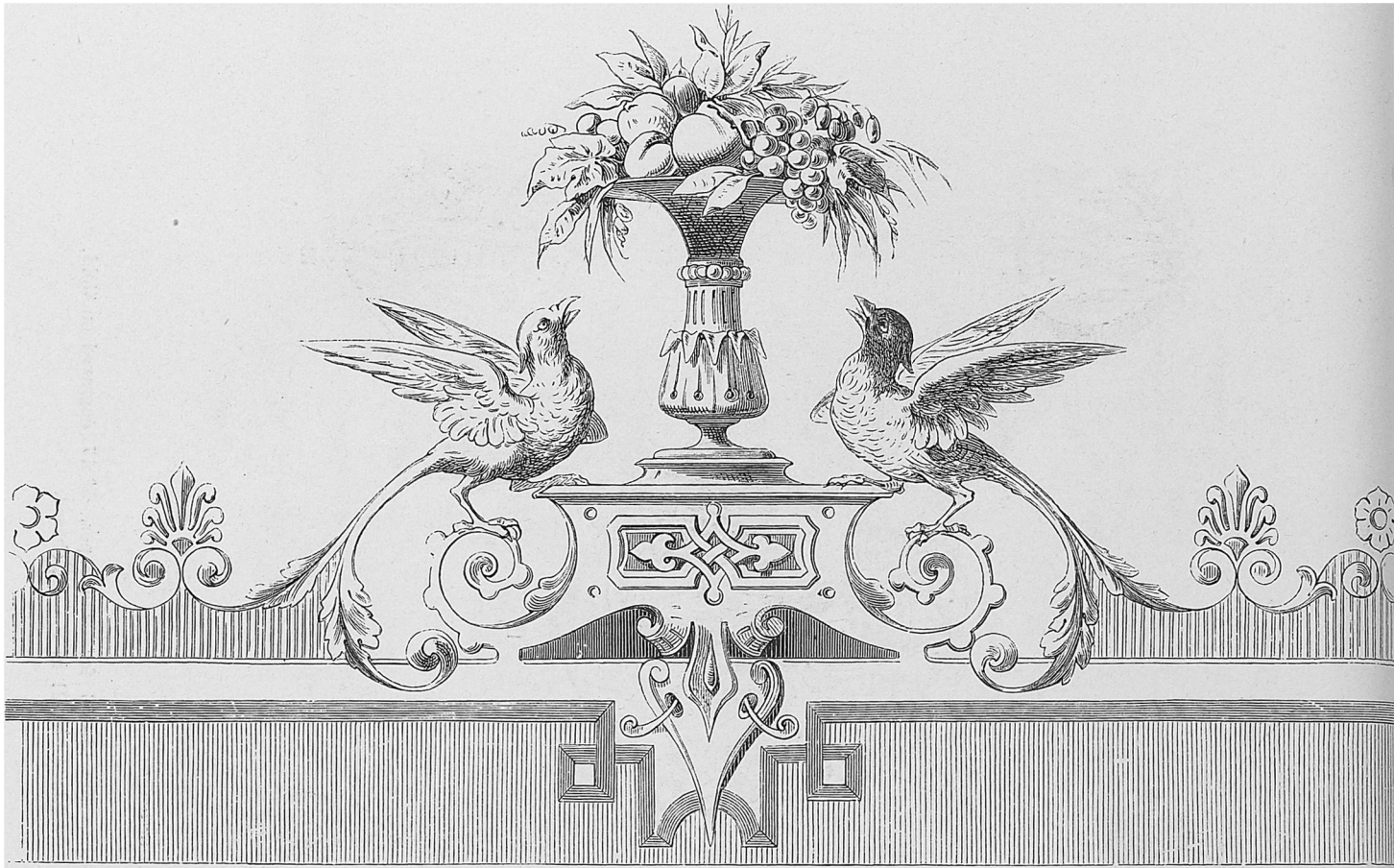
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Nº. 22. Ornament for Ceiling Painting, designed by the late Painter P. Böhme in Stuttgart.

VARIOUS.

VELOURS SAVONNERIE — A NEW DECORATIVE MATERIAL FOR HANGINGS.

This appellation has been given to a charming material recently invented by the enterprising firm of Berchoud and Guerreau, 15, Rue du Mail, Paris, for the reason that it is produced by nearly the same mechanical process as the well-known and magnificent Savonnerie de Gobelins. This new invention, the exclusive property of the above-mentioned firm, may be employed with success for the execution of every imaginable fancy and design, on any sort of material, by means of a velvet *en relief*, which is solidly incorporated with the tissue. Not what is called "application", mind (and we insist upon this point), but a real incorporation with the tissue forming the ground; and, we repeat it, thanks to this most elegant and useful novelty, every style of decorative hanging may henceforth be executed free from the difficulties which materially and seriously impeded the artist-upholsterer in carrying out his conceptions. The want of such an auxiliary to help in widening the all too-narrow circle within which our artist's conceptions have hitherto been confined had long made itself felt. The old materials, with their style and patterns often repeated and so well known, allowed of no scope for originality or invention; the apparition of the Velours Savonnerie may therefore be regarded as a new era in our art, dating from which we can give full play to our invention, and full scope to our taste, without impediment with regard to style, design, or color.

Draperies, panels, bands, vallances — every section of decorative hanging, in a word — acquire a grace and style of their own when executed with the aid of this material, even when of the

least expensive and simplest description. All and every style of design will be found, through its aid, of the most facile execution, even the Greek pattern, the rectitude of the angles of which are with regard to the general effect, of such vital importance.

Paris, Correspondent of Furniture Gazette.

DREDGING FOR AMBER.

According to an official report from Memel, Germany, an establishment has been organized for gaining amber by dredging for it in the Kurische Haff, near the village of Schwarzort, situated about twelve miles south of Memel. It has been known for many years that amber existed in the soil of the Kurische Haff, from the fact that the dredger employed by the Government for the purpose of clearing away the shallow spots near Schwarzort, which were duly appropriated by the laborers, and at the time no particular attention was paid to the matter. Some time afterwards, however, some speculative persons associated, and made an offer to the Government not only to do the dredging wherever required at their own expense, but also to pay a daily rent, provided the amber they might find became their property. This proposal was accepted, and the rent fixed at 15 thalers and later at 25 thalers for each working pay. The dredging was commenced with four machines worked by laborers and one worked by horses. Judging from the extension of the business transacted by the speculators in this matter, the results must have been extremely profitable. At present we learn that the work is carried on with eighteen steam dredgers and two tug-boats, the whole managed by about 1,000 laborers.

The Practical Magazine.